

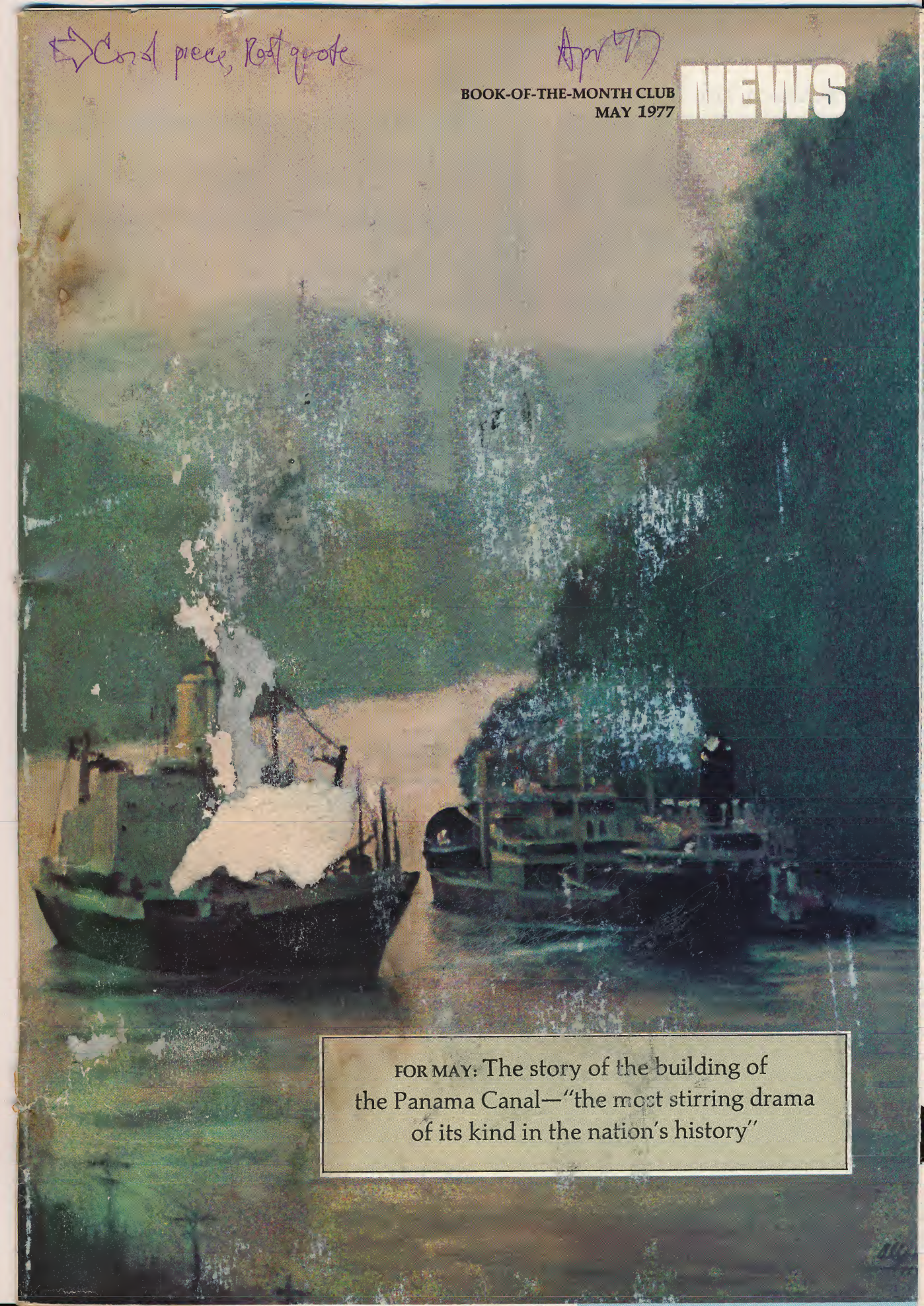
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Apr 77

BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB

MAY 1977

NEWS



FOR MAY: The story of the building of the Panama Canal—"the most stirring drama of its kind in the nation's history"

BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB

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MAY 1977

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*"Adventure, romance,
devoted idealism,
devoted to historic narrative of*

DAVID McCULLOUGH

THE PATH BETWEEN THE SEAS

COVER: Courtesy of the Panama Canal Company

Publisher's list price: \$14.95
PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$11.95

death on a horrendous scale, failure, courage beyond easy belief, intrigue, skulduggery at high levels—and ultimate success. The reader panoramic dimensions could scarcely ask for more.”

“THE GREATEST liberty ever taken with nature,” a perceptive foreign visitor called it. The most stirring drama of its kind, surely, in the nation’s history, with an international cast of characters who have disappeared into the shadows except for a few who endure as vivid figures: Theodore Roosevelt, vibrant, aggressive, unashamedly power-loving; and Ferdinand de Lesseps, hero of the Suez Canal, an entrepreneur of dynamic energy and extraordinary magnetism who was known as *Le Grand Français*.

The drama? It was, of course, the story of the Panama Canal, in a way a saga not yet entirely concluded, since its latest phase remains a major problem in U.S. foreign policy for the newest president. But this crisis is not a specific concern of author David McCullough as he goes about his superb recounting of the building of the Canal, from the first tentative steps in 1870 to its completion in 1914.

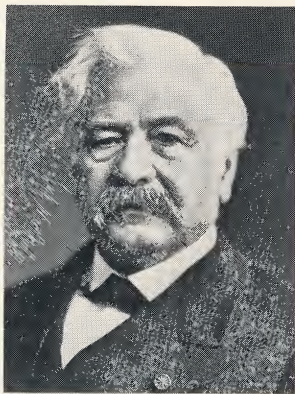
Adventure, romance, death on a horrendous scale, failure, courage beyond easy belief, devoted idealism, intrigue, skulduggery at high levels—and ultimate success.

The reader devoted to historic narrative of panoramic dimensions could scarcely ask for more.

Those first tentative steps were American, beginning with the dispatch of a naval expedition during the Grant administration to a grim wilderness spot on the Isthmus of Panama, there to investigate the possibility of a canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific. By 1875 six other expeditions had followed, producing a large store of information and an Inter-oceanic Canal Commission but nothing like a specific project for construction. That would wait until after 1889, when the French at last conceded a disastrous defeat for their proposed sea-level canal across Panama and their work on it ground to a halt.

How, France must have wondered, then and long after, could it have failed? Many of Mr. McCullough’s most fascinating pages dwell on the euphoric hopes with which it all began. At its head was de Lesseps, hailed by his countrymen and all Europe as a miracle worker when the Suez Canal he created opened in 1869. So, six years later, in search of still other triumphs, at the age of 70 he

REPORT BY John K. Hutchens



Ferdinand de Lesseps

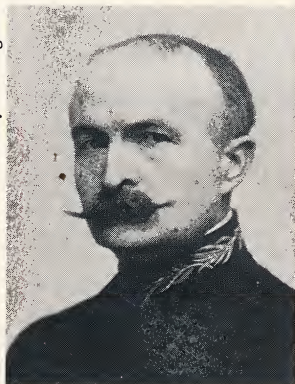


Pres. Theodore Roosevelt

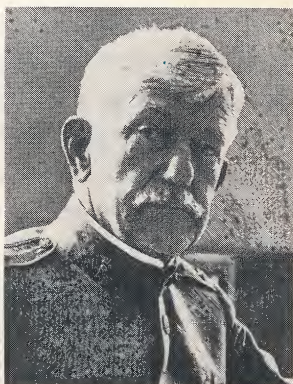
later, the rainy season arrived, the horror unforeseen by de Lesseps: five to six feet of rain annually at Panama City, orange rust on new tools, mold on shoes and instrument cases. With the rain came yellow fever and a less than even chance of survival for anyone stricken by the fits of shivering, fever and bodily pain. Malaria was an even deadlier killer. The next year brought an ominous death toll and a damaging earthquake. Contractors and engineers were defecting. Danger signs were in the air. By 1885 it was estimated that twenty of every 100 persons arriving in Panama died. Of 19,000 workers, the majority blacks from the Caribbean islands, 6000 were sick at any given point. In the same year, with only a tenth of the canal dug, talk of failure came into the open. More and more respected engineers regarded the sea-level canal de Lesseps insisted upon as an impossibility.

Mr. McCullough records it all in absorbing variety and detail. He has a remarkable gift for explaining and clarifying the scientific and the technical. His way with personal portraiture is no less impressive, as when he describes the poignant return to Panama, several years after his first visit, of the 80-year-old de Lesseps, still sunny and confidently blind to the looming catastrophe. When, at last, he yielded to the plan for a lock canal, as distinguished from a sea-level canal, it was too late. A lottery bond plan to raise money for it fell through. On February 4, 1889, his French Panama Canal Company expired, and with it went the savings of some 800,000 Frenchmen who had invested in it.

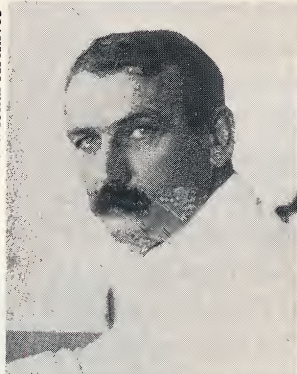
Early in the new century, looking on from the capital of the Colossus of the North, was Theodore Roosevelt, another believer in heroics, whose interest in an interoceanic canal had begun a decade before his presidency. Not for him were considerations of commerce, ennobling progress, etc. He envi-



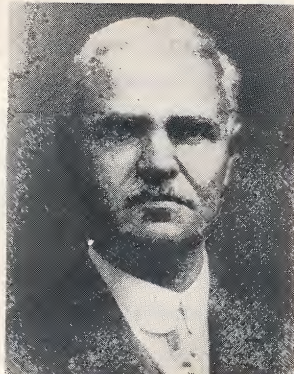
Philippe Bunau-Varilla



Col. William Gorgas



John F. Stevens



Col. George Goethals

announced his interest in an Atlantic-Pacific waterway. Although he was neither an engineer nor a builder, he formed a private syndicate, the *Compagnie Universelle du Canal Interocéanique*, or French Panama Canal Company, and raised money through a stock subscription. This canal would be easier to build than Suez, he had said. Reports of an intolerable Isthmus climate were ugly gossip.

Work began early in 1881. A few months

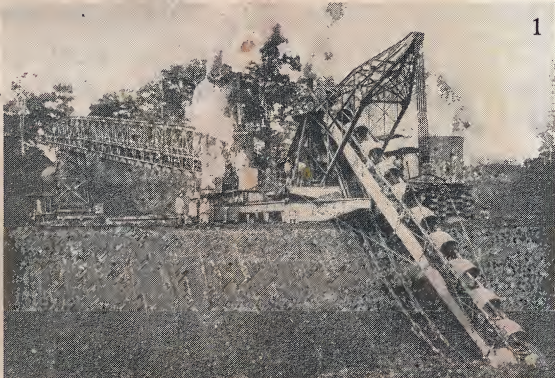
sioned the United States Navy as the commanding power in two oceans. At this point *The Path Between the Seas* moves to the political, and an engrossing piece of Canal history it is.

Onto the stage now come some new characters: William Nelson Cromwell, corporation lawyer, who aimed to have the New Panama Canal Company, formed shortly after the de Lesseps tragedy, sell its holdings in Panama to the United States for \$40 million; and Philippe Bunau-Varilla, the idealistic young engineer who, during the French regime in Panama, had worked desperately to salvage it and now was determined to see that the old French company's assets would not go unused. Things moved apace, Roosevelt-fashion. An earlier commission appointed by President McKinley to study the relative merits of the Panama and Nicaragua routes had originally favored Nicaragua, then

reversed itself. Roosevelt and Senator Mark Hanna, initially advocates of Nicaragua, were converted. By a majority of five, the Senate voted for Panama. One must suspect that the clever Bunau-Varilla gloated over a deft anti-Nicaraguan propaganda stroke: to each senator he had sent a Nicaraguan postage stamp portraying a beautiful but lethal volcanic eruption.

The crudity of the maneuvers by which the United States brought about the secession of the state of Panama from the Republic of Colombia was in clear violation of a treaty in 1846 by which the United States guaranteed Colombia's sovereignty. No matter. American warships arrived off Colón and Panama City on a November day in 1903 to prevent the landing of Colombian troops to suppress the revolution. The Republic of Panama was installed—a government that, Mr. McCullough asserts, would not have lasted a week

United States Military Academy



1

Canal Zone Library



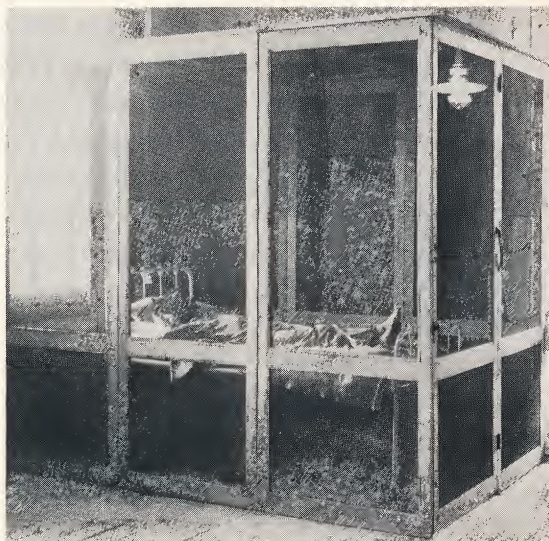
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Panama Canal Company



3

Machine, man and nature at work on the Canal: 1. A huge French excavator which de Lesseps hoped would speed the digging of the route; 2. West Indian laborers carrying boxes of dynamite; 3. The result of a rainy-season slide at Culebra Cut.



A yellow-fever victim lies in a portable isolation cage at Ancon Hospital. Steamer *Ancon* during official opening passage of the Canal, August 15, 1914.



without our military presence. The game was over, sealed by the Treaty of 1903, which guaranteed the United States complete control of the Canal Zone. The renegotiation of this treaty is currently the focus of acrimonious debate throughout Latin America.

Almost at once it brought upon President Roosevelt newspaper charges of "sordid conquest," to which he blandly replied that "no one connected with this government" had any part in inciting the Panama revolution. His own cabinet had few illusions. At one cabinet meeting, having delivered his refutation of press criticism, Roosevelt is said to have asked his secretary of war, Elihu Root, "Have I answered the charges? Have I defended myself?"

"You certainly have, Mr. President," Root replied. "You have shown that you were accused of seduction and you have conclusively proved that you were guilty of rape."

Then, of course, the big task began, and other memorable figures made their entrance. Among the all-time American heroes in their service to humanity were William Gorgas and Walter Reed, relentlessly fighting to put down yellow fever and malaria—in the case of Gorgas, over the contemptuous advice of

a Washington official who dismissed as "balderdash" the theory of mosquito infection. They were bright lights in a dark time, along with such superior chief engineers as John Stevens, an old railroad man trained by James J. Hill, the "Empire Builder," and Col. George W. Goethals, a career army officer. But the first year of American building was a caricature of legendary American efficiency. Supplies arrived months after they were due. Half a dozen vouchers were required for the simplest articles. Yellow fever threatened again, despite all Gorgas could do. Living conditions were appalling for whites and blacks alike. Even the doughty Stevens grew so restless he left his post "for personal reasons."

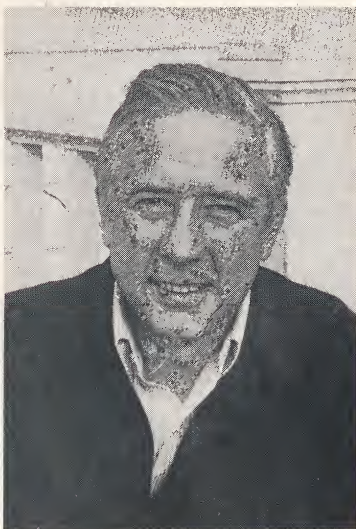
Nevertheless, the work went on, steadily and cleanly, free of fraud and graft, through the Roosevelt and Taft administrations and into that of Wilson. On January 17, 1914, an old French crane boat made the first complete passage through the Canal. It was an overwhelming achievement of many, known and unknown. Mr. McCullough's achievement, too, is an appropriately splendid work, one marked by the most admirable diligence, dramatic sense and style.

DAVID McCULLOUGH's reputation is clearly that of a writer of large books on huge, sprawling subjects. His first book centered on an event which disordered the lives of thousands (the Johnstown, Pennsylvania, flood); his second was on a feat of construction which had vast political-social consequences (the building of the Brooklyn Bridge). Now the forty-four-year international effort to create the Panama Canal.

"People ask me, 'How come you are always writing about water and construction jobs?'" he says. "Well, I think my work *does* have a continuity. The books are derivative. I am writing about self-reliant people who don't give up, people who deal with large things. And I care a lot about the roles personality and courage play for those who get involved. There's a quote in Saint Exupéry's *Wind, Sand and Stars* that helps sum it up for me: '*But there are other ways than war to bring us the warmth of a race, shoulder to shoulder, toward an identical goal.*'"

Despite their titles, McCullough's books don't fit snugly into categories. "The Canal—it's not one subject," he says, "it's so many. It's 19th-century medicine, it's international politics, finance, engineering. Think of the repercussions, the currents it released. And it's all those wonderful people!"

McCullough's scrupulous, item-by-item research pays him greatest rewards when he is able to flesh out a figure and provide an insightful characterization that has not been offered before. His research on Ferdinand de Lesseps, which included conversations with his grandson in Paris, enabled him to give "a different picture" of the famous Frenchman. In the archives of the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, he discovered material revealing the illegitimate birth of Philippe Bunau-Varilla, an unknown fact that helped explain some of the man's behavior. A high point of McCullough's investigation—which hit him like the sudden grasp of an elusive clue by



ABOUT David McCullough BY JACK NEWCOMBE

a persevering detective—was the reading of General Goethals' letters to his son. "The letters are a window thrown open upon a sensitive and appealing man" — one who was viewed by critics as being totally devoid of human emotion.

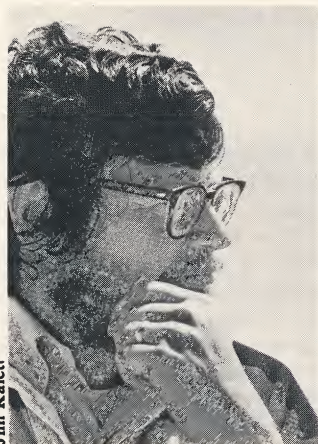
The McCullough pyramid of research for a book is an awesome assembly. For the Canal story he consulted more than 400 books, some 100 technical journals, newspapers, magazines. The study of official documents and correspondence, much of it in the National Archives, occupied him for more than a year. There are 15,000 items in the Goethals' collection; 10,000 listed under Bunau-Varilla in the Library of Congress. He is a confirmed user of photographs for research and had hundreds copied so that he could study them. He plunged into fiction of the period in search of mood and atmosphere. Conrad's *Nostromo* and the writings of Jules Verne were particularly useful.

McCullough's need for on-the-site research was minimal. But he and his two oldest sons, David, then 14, and William, 12, spent two weeks in Panama. "I found it even more beautiful than I had imagined," he says. "And, of course, the Canal

is excellently run." He carried his impressions (actually, pleasing confirmations of his research) back to his home in West Tisbury, Massachusetts, where he is a year-round resident of Martha's Vineyard. There, in an efficient, eight-by-twelve-foot, cedar-shingled writing studio in the back corner of his acre lot, McCullough goes through the agonizingly labored post-research period—the writing of the book. "I'm not a writer," he likes to say, "I'm a re-writer. I have to make it all perfectly clear." The wastebasket fills during a writing day with what his son Geoffrey calls "wrong pages." There were nearly 200 of them in the early draft of *The Path Between the Seas*, and he had to start all over again after deciding that he must give a detailed account of the French contribution and not use it simply as background to the U.S. involvement.

The McCullough island-home seems a remote distance from sources for (and scenes in) the book. But he found several descendants of Canal people on the Vineyard, including three members of the Goethals family. Through the local library he has access to Library of Congress materials, including microfilm which he reviews at the local school. He has, he believes, the best of worlds in which to work and to raise five children (daughter Dorie, 7, cannot remember a time when her father was not working on the Canal book), two dogs (one docile Samoyed and a lively collie) and a cat. He and his wife Rosalee feel privileged to be able to take long walks on a winter beach without encountering anyone except perhaps another strolling islander. Already in the work studio on Music Road the files are beginning to grow on his next project—a portrait of Teddy Roosevelt, the man, before he became president. In time it will be finished and be quite recognizable as another McCullough original.

Jack Newcombe is Executive Editor of the Book-of-the-Month Club.



David W. McCullough's **EYE ON BOOKS**

WHEN the Modern Language Association, during its convention last December, began a long session devoted to speeches and papers on Elizabeth Bishop and her poetry, Miss Bishop ducked out and went around the corner to a delicatessen. Why? "For one thing," she said the other day, "I don't know how anyone can sit through one of those meetings. For another, the Stage serves the best corned beef hash in Manhattan."

In 1969, when she won the National Book Award for her prematurely titled *The Complete Poems*, she was in Brazil (she lived there for sixteen years) and word was brought to her by the police. "I came back from shopping and outside my door were two men in uniform, one with a lot of gold braid and the other wearing a tin helmet. They both snapped to attention and saluted me. It scared my little maid to death."

This year, she won the National Book Critics Circle Award for her new collection of poems, *Geography III*, and she came down to New York from Boston to accept the prize. For many of the critics at the ceremony it was their first chance to see one of the legendary figures of modern American poetry, a woman whose poems are as open and accessible as she is shy and reticent.

"I've gone up and down the East Coast," she said when we met recently, "living everywhere from Nova Scotia to Key West, but I've never seemed to live long enough in one place to become a member of a poetry 'group,' and when I was in Brazil there weren't any groups handy. I've been a friend of Marianne Moore's and Robert Lowell's but not a part of any school."

She seems amused by the fact that both Moore and Lowell became compulsive tinkers who often reworked their poems even after they were published. "All that revision never interested me," she

says, "but Marianne Moore's greatest influence on me was a thirst for accuracy. She would go to incredible pains to get things right." For "Crusoe in England," in *Geography III*, Miss Bishop had a friend visit a goat farm to find out how goats open their eyes, and for "The Moose" she searched through maps in the Boston and Harvard libraries in search of the name of a particular Nova Scotia swamp. She finally came across it in a secondhand book store in Bermuda, in the yellowing memoirs of a 19th-century missionary. But she doesn't carry factual accuracy to pedantic extremes. "In the Waiting Room" describes a *National Geographic* magazine she read in a dentist's office in 1918, the February issue. "Out of curiosity I looked it up, and it turned out that I had combined the March and February issues, but I didn't change the poem. It was right the way it was. I think Robert Lowell, though, thinks I carry the accuracy business too far. When he gave me his new manuscript to read, he said, 'Oh, you'll just find mistakes.'"

The poem that the judges of the National Book Critics Circle picked out for special mention was "The Moose," which mixes the events of a bus trip from Nova Scotia to Boston with memories of childhood. "It is one of the few poems my Canadian relatives have liked," she says. Although she was born in Massachusetts, she spent her early years with her grandparents in Nova Scotia. "It was written in bits and pieces over a number of years and, finally, it all came together. After I read it in public for the first time, at Harvard, one of the students said, 'For a poem it wasn't bad.'"



ELIZABETH BISHOP

TOM VICTOR

One of the most moving poems in the book has for a refrain: "The art of losing isn't hard to master." It mentions three "loved houses." "Yes," she says, "one in Key West, one in Petrópolis, just west of Rio Bay, and one in Ouro Preto, also in Brazil. The Ouro Preto house was built in 1690, and from the front porch you can see seven baroque churches. I called it Casa Mariana, after Marianne Moore and because it was on the road to a town called Mariana. When I left I took the name plaque off

(Continued on page 20)

*A rich collection of the wittiest writing
of America's favorite humorist*

The Comic Mark Twain Reader

Twain at His Sunniest

Edited with an Introduction and Notes by Charles Neider

OVER the years Mark Twain, "the wild humorist" and "haloed clown," has delighted readers with his hilarious yarns and quips. Now, with this huge volume celebrating Twain's inimitable wit, the comic master's choicest humor—stories, sketches, tall tales, lectures and selections from his travel books and novels—has been anthologized for the first time in a single edition. The editor, a well-known Mark Twain scholar, has included eighty-four pieces in all. Among them are such all-time favorites as "The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County," "Curing a Cold," an episode from *Huckleberry Finn* about those two incorrigible rogues, the Duke and the Dauphin, Twain's madcap accounts of his European travels from *The Innocents Abroad* and his Western yarn from *Roughing It*, plus such lighthearted sketches as "Female Suffrage," "A Cure for the Blues" and "Amended Obituaries."



THE BETTMANN ARCHIVE

PRICE: \$8.95 ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

BM
MC Alternate

A richly textured saga of India at the turn of the century...by the author of the classic *Nectar in a Sieve*

Kamala Markandaya The



"A brilliant tapestry. . . . An absorbing fictionalized account of the last decades of the reign of the rajahs during India's slow wresting of independence from Britain."

—Chicago Tribune

IN 1895 the dynasty seemed secure. The amiable but pliant Maharajah Bawajiraj sat on the throne of Devapur, carefully propped up by the British. He lived splendidly amid vast estates stocked with peacocks and fine horses,

Golden Honeycomb

thoroughly insulated from the poverty afflicting his people.

Bawajiraj fathered many daughters by the Maharani. But he had only one son, Rabi, born of a passionate love for a tempestuous, strong-willed commoner.

Rabi grew up in the palace, the favorite of his father. But, through his mother and grandmother, he was imbued with tales of India before the British, and through a native teacher he learned of the squalid conditions that prevailed outside the palace walls. He came of age torn between opposing forces—between the traditions symbolized by his father and the hopes offered by Gandhi.

In this brilliant saga of conflicting passions, Kamala Markandaya evokes another time and place—creating magnificent contrasts between the wealth and pageantry of imperial India and the poverty of the common people; between the stirrings of Indian nationalism and the complacency of the British with their "benevolent," discriminatory rule.

"Kamala Markandaya's most impressive work, and one that an Indian novelist had to write sooner or later"

—John Barkham Reviews

[Publisher's list price: \$10]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$8.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

Other Book-of-the-Month Club Selections and Alternates

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT—IN SOME CASES **TWO CREDITS**—
WILL BE GIVEN WITH THE PURCHASE OF ANY OF THESE BOOKS
[A shipping charge is added to all shipments.]

CONDOMINIUM by John D. MacDonald

April Selection. "Outstanding even by comparison with his other highly praised novels. . . . His millions of fans will push CONDOMINIUM to the top of the best-seller list"—*Publishers Weekly*. In an exciting departure from his Travis McGee mysteries, John D. MacDonald creates a harrowingly suspenseful story about a "deluxe" Florida condominium. As the worst hurricane in history looms off the Keys, the condominium dwellers discover that their luxury building is so shoddily constructed even a still wind could spell disaster. "Uncommonly rich entertainment"—*Mordecia Richler*.

• (Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

HAYWIRE by Brooke Hayward

Special Spring Selection. Leland Hayward was a successful theatrical agent and producer. His wife, Margaret Sullivan, was a Hollywood star. Their three children, Brooke, Bridget and Bill, were bright and attractive. Their friends included Henry Fonda, Marlon Brando and Jimmy Stewart. The Haywards had everything. Or so it seemed. But in this moving memoir of her family, Brooke Hayward recounts the tragic story behind the glittering façade, a story of divorce, mental breakdown and suicide. "One of the most elegant and moving memoirs by an American in this century. . . . As truthful and authentic as Scott Fitzgerald's somewhat similar recollection of lost time, music, youth"—*Gore Vidal*.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

LANCELOT by Walker Percy

March Selection. The newest book by the widely acclaimed author of *Love in the Ruins* and *The Moviegoer* is a novel about the South, as seen through the eyes of a native son—Lancelot Andrewes Lamar, scion of a distinguished Southern family and at present an inmate of the Institute for Aberrant Behavior. "A first-rate comedy. . . . Tells more about, for instance, our Southern presidents, from Johnson to Carter, than would a barrel of cover stories or a life sentence of symposia"—*Wilfrid Sheed*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.70

VOYAGE: A Novel of 1896

by Sterling Hayden

This great sea adventure tells of the maiden voyage of the *Neptune's Car*, a steel square-rigger bound from Maine for San Francisco with a cargo of coal and a

crew of brutal, violent men who threaten to mutiny. "Scuds through the emotions like a windjammer before a full gale"—*Chicago Tribune*. "Evokes Dana, Melville, Conrad and Jack London"—*Clifton Fadiman*.

(Pub price: \$12.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

PARIS! PARIS!

by Irwin Shaw and Ronald Searle

In this wry, witty and affectionate book, novelist Irwin Shaw recounts his lifelong love affair with Paris—with the girls on their bicycles, the barges on the Seine, Piaf singing "La Vie en Rose." The perfect visual counterpoint to Shaw's remembrances are Ronald Searle's atmospheric drawings. They are Searle's Paris as the text is Shaw's. "Paris sieved through the memory of a sharp and loving observer"—*Clifton Fadiman*.

(Pub price: \$10.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

CHANGING by Liv Ullmann

Actress Liv Ullmann, known for her performances in such movies as *Scenes from a Marriage* and *Face to Face*, talks candidly about her life offscreen—including her longtime personal and professional involvement with Swedish film director Ingmar Bergman. A revealing self-portrait of a highly sensitive woman and artist. "A delightful book—literate, perceptive and witty"—*Village Voice*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

MORTAL LESSONS

Notes on the Art of Surgery by Richard Selzer

Reminiscent of *The Lives of a Cell*. A surgeon at the Yale Medical Center takes us into the operating room and turns the human body into a story that is engaging, enlightening, provocative, even mysterious. "Selzer has written *Gray's Anatomy, Volume II*"—*Tom Wolfe*. "Intensely moving . . . an impressive display of knowledge and art, magic and mystery"—*Kirkus Reviews*. "Remarkable"—*Publishers Weekly*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

EAST WIND, RAIN by N. Richard Nash

Pearl Harbor, 1941. While the world waits for war, the Winter family wages its own devastating, private conflict against Tokan, an elegant, elusive Japanese who may be a secret agent. "The best view of the Honolulu—that was we have glimpsed since James Jones's *From Here to Eternity*"—*The Washington Post*. "N. Richard Nash nearly exceeds his mandate to keep his readers' eyes glued to the rapidly turning pages"—*The New York Times*. By the author of *The Rainmaker*.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

WINNERS AND LOSERS

Battles, Retreats, Gains, Losses and

Ruins from a Long War by Gloria Emerson

"A great book [which] demands to be read"—Los Angeles Times. For the past three years, Gloria Emerson, a former Saigon correspondent for *The New York Times*, has traveled the United States interviewing veterans, anti-war activists, ex-POWs, draft evaders, widows and parents about the impact the Vietnam war has had on them and on their country. The result is this extraordinary account of the tragic, human side of war. "A magnificent book"—*Newsweek*.

(Pub price: \$10.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

MICHEL GUÉRARD'S CUISINE MINCEUR

by Michel Guérard • Translated by
Narcisse Chamberlain with Fanny Brennan

Here, at long last, is what every dieter has dreamed of—superb French food that's low in both calories and cholesterol. It's called *la cuisine minceur*, the cuisine of slimness, and it was invented by French chef Michel Guérard. In this handsome cookbook, Guérard shares with American chefs his revolutionary cooking methods. "Celestial diet cooking. . . Guérard is the civilized world's hottest kitchen property"—Gael Greene, *New York* magazine. Illustrated.

(Pub price: \$12.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

OCTOBER LIGHT by John Gardner

Winner of the 1976 National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction. "The best novel of the year"—Boston Sunday Globe. John Gardner's widely praised novel is the story of an elderly brother and sister in Vermont, locked in a stubborn battle of wills. Unfolding alongside this story, but in striking counterpoint, is a novel-within-a-novel about marijuana smugglers. "Quite marvelous—Gardner's most touching and accessible novel to date"—*N.Y. Times*. "Gardner's best novel"—*Time*.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

A VERY YOUNG DANCER

by Jill Krementz

"The best ballet book ever written for children"—Clive Barnes, *N.Y. Times Book Review*. Jill Krementz' enchanting photographs capture the whole exciting story of 10-year-old Stephanie, who is chosen to dance the lead child's role in the New York City Ballet's annual Christmas production of *The Nutcracker*. "Extraordinarily beautiful. . . Will prove a delight to children and adults of all ages"—Los Angeles Times. 197 photographs.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

MAJESTY: Elizabeth II and

the House of Windsor by Robert Lacey

Based in part on interviews with more than forty people intimately connected with the British royal family, this absorbing study examines the lives and life styles

of the four Windsor monarchs—George V, Edward VIII, George VI and the world's most famous reigning sovereign, Elizabeth II. 32 pages of photographs. "The best book on the fascinating subject of 20th-century royalty to come to your judges' attention"—Clifton Fadiman.

(Pub price: \$12.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

THE INCREDIBLE DR. MATRIX

The World's Greatest Numerologist

by Martin Gardner

Can you tell the birthday of a girl who was 22 the day before yesterday but next year will be 25? Or what makes 8549176320 a singular sequence? These and many more delightful mind benders are contained in this complete collection of the "Dr. Matrix" columns which Martin Gardner has published in *Scientific American*. "Fun and mind-stretching"—*N.Y. Times Book Review*. "Gardner should be considered a national treasure"—*Harper's Bookletter*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

THE RIGHT AND THE POWER

The Prosecution of Watergate

by Leon Jaworski

In this fascinating memoir, Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski discusses aspects of the Watergate investigation never made public before—including his plea-bargaining sessions with John Ehrlichman and H. R. Haldeman, his struggles for the White House tapes, and the reasons for his much-criticized decision not to challenge the Nixon pardon in court. "The 'final word' on Watergate"—*Washington Star*.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

REHEARSAL'S OFF! by George Booth

Welcome to the wonderfully wacky world of *New Yorker* cartoonist George Booth. Here, in nearly 100 cartoons, are the loony dogs, dyspeptic cats, curmudg-



only geriatrics and other motley members of Booth's cartoon family—all of whom face the vicissitudes of life with a hilarious lack of success. "A superb present for anyone with a sense of humor"—*Saturday Review*. Actual size: 8½" x 11¼".

\$7.95

THE INNER GAME OF TENNIS

by W. Timothy Gallwey

A well-known California tennis pro and teacher explains a unique mental process which promises to help improve your tennis—and indeed any game you play. According to Gallwey, the process—based on learning to concentrate “effortlessly” and to “trust your body” to do what comes naturally—is even more important for peak performance than physical skill. “A splendid book—it has helped my game enormously”—Gay Talese. “Gallwey has brought Zen archery to tennis”—Adam Smith.

(Pub price: \$7.95) Price to Members: \$6.95

INNER TENNIS: Playing the Game

by W. Timothy Gallwey

A practical sequel to the phenomenal best seller *The Inner Game of Tennis*. In his first book California tennis pro W. Timothy Gallwey introduced his “Zen tennis,” a unique approach to the game based on the conviction that winning is as much in a player’s head as in his technique. In this new book Gallwey puts his philosophy to work on the court—with detailed mental and physical drills to put you in touch with the ball, the racket and yourself.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

THE USES OF ENCHANTMENT

The Meaning and Importance of Fairy Tales

by Bruno Bettelheim

Winner of the 1976 National Book Critics Circle Award for criticism. In this absorbing book, likely to interest every parent, the well-known child psychologist Bruno Bettelheim explains the important and unique role fairy tales can play in helping children learn how to cope with their emotions and their world. “In spite of my built-in skepticism, Bettelheim won me over. I found him provocative and persuasive”—Margaret Manning, *Boston Globe*.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

IMPERIAL EARTH by Arthur C. Clarke

“A 23rd-century *Gulliver’s Travels* through the world of space”—*John Barkham Reviews*. In this arresting novel, the Grand Master of SF and coauthor of *2001* previews the year 2276. An ambassador from Saturn visits Earth for America’s Quincentennial celebration, and what he discovers surprises even this cloned son, who is descended from earthlings. “Clarke at the height of his powers”—*N.Y. Times Book Review*.

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THE BOARDWALK by Robert Kotlowitz

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BYRON by Elizabeth Longford

Drawing expertly on Lord Byron’s letters and journals, Lady Longford, author of *Victoria R.I.* and *Wellington*, creates a masterful study of the poet whose scandalous love affairs (including an incestuous relationship with his half sister Augusta), “filthy and impious” poetry, and passionate devotion to “radical” political causes made him a legend in his own time. “Utterly engrossing, unforgettable”—James Dickey.

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REMEMBERED LAUGHTER

The Life of Noel Coward by Cole Lesley

An intimate portrait of the celebrated playwright, composer, director, actor Noel Coward by a man who was his friend and confidant for almost four decades. Photographs. “If there has been a better or more fascinating theatrical biography in the last fifty years, it has not come my way”—Arthur Marshall, *New Statesman*. “Thoroughly rewarding and satisfying. . . [Lesley] tells more than an outsider could and more than insiders usually will”—*Chicago Tribune Book World*.

(Pub price: \$12.95) Price to Members: \$10.95

ALONE OF ALL HER SEX

The Myth and the Cult of the Virgin Mary

by Marina Warner

Drawing on art, history, literature, psychology and folk legends, Marina Warner shows how the figure of Mary as virgin, queen, bride, mother and intercessor has influenced and been influenced by cultural developments from the first century to the present day. Illustrations. “Astonishing and enlightening. . . A magnificent study of the whole development of the character of a single female deity”—Margaret Mead, *Harper’s*. “Dramatic and informative”—*The Times Literary Supplement* (London).

(Pub price: \$15.00) Price to Members: \$10.95

BM
MC Alternat

So spake Me

To Virginia Dashi
paper colleague o
more Sun); April 1

The most beautiful
world is Beethoven
in A major, No. 7. T
a crayon portrait. A
superior to nature. I
poor artist who co
the Creator, assumi
tions of the bout to
approaching even.

To Carl Sandburg
March 28, [1918]

Good stuff, but rath
line. I dare you to do
luscious lyric, capa
ing a fat woman to s

To Fanny Butcher
cago Tribune); Se

Ah, that I had less
loaf around the wo
for a revision of T
haven’t even opene
more months. of
pedagogues, philolo

To Ezra Pound; D

The United States
depths of despair.

[Publis



SUTHERLAND

"A Gilda that's all freshness and innocence."—*The New York Times*



PAVAROTTI

"Perfectly cast as the Duke. He simply exudes youth, *joie de vivre* and carefree libidinousness."

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"Highest recommendation! An absolute triumph!"

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VERDI

RIGOLETTO

JOAN SUTHERLAND as Gilda

LUCIANO PAVAROTTI as the Duke

SHERRILL MILNES as Rigoletto

MARTTI TALVELA as Sparafucile

The Ambrosian Opera Chorus

The London Symphony Orchestra

RICHARD BONYNGE, conductor

"A *Rigoletto* with any three of the performers listed above would be a command to attention; one with all five automatically takes rank among the best ever. For a rarity, every one of the fine singers is in the first flush of vocal prime, able to compete on even terms with all the others. Gilda-lovers will dote on Miss Sutherland's 'Caro nome' and 'Tutte le feste,' but Pavarotti makes the venerable walls of London's Kingsway Hall ring with his 'Questa o quella' and 'La donna è mobile,' as Milnes does with his 'Vendetta.' To cap it all, this is perhaps Bonyng's most cogent, productive conducting effort to date."—Irving Kolodin, *Saturday Review*

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—Heuwell Tircuit, *San Francisco Sunday Examiner & Chronicle*

PLEASE NOTE: It may surprise you, as it did us, to learn that our price to members for this recording of *Rigoletto* is considerably less than the price of one good seat for a single performance at most of the world's leading opera houses, including the Paris Opéra, the Vienna State Opera, Milan's La Scala and New York's Metropolitan Opera. Moreover, it would be the rarest of treats if any of these great opera houses were to bring together a cast of the magnitude assembled by London for this album.

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*In reverse alphabetical order.

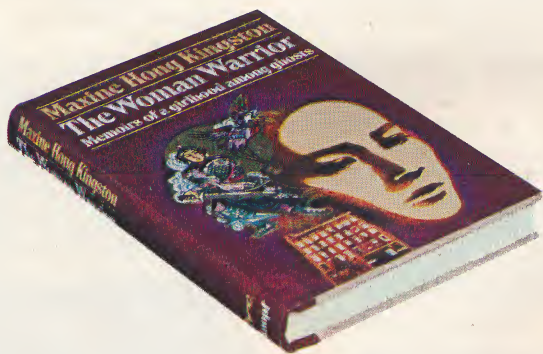
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by Edwin Newman

In this marvelously entertaining book, NBC news commentator Edwin Newman provides ample evidence of how politicians, social scientists and journalists (among others) are debasing the value of our language. Along the way, he manages to skewer just about every shopworn slogan, cliché, bromide and pompous phrase imaginable, and builds an amusing, airtight case for banishing them from our vocabulary. "A brilliant, curmudgeonly book"—Tom Wicker.

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A taut, spine-tingling espionage novel, reminiscent of the work of John le Carré. Gareth Owen, middle-aged British Intelligence officer, is sent back into the field one last time to uncover the thirty-year secret of the Orion Line. The Line, most famous of wartime escape routes across Nazi-occupied Europe, should be ancient history. But today, thirty years later, anyone who seems curious about the old route runs the risk of being brutally murdered. Owen's job is to find out why.

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pressure points. Dr...
tension, migraine an...
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Illustrations.

ORGANIZING T...

by Stephen Hess

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modern Chief Exec

John Newman

book, NBC news provides ample evidence. Scientists and journalists are using the value of our images to skewer just cliché, bromide and builds an amusing, from our vocabulary. —Tom Wicker. Members: \$6.95

John Newman

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John Luard

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BMC Alternate

The first full-scale account of Hitler's chilling plan to breed "The Master Race" ... until now one of the most secret of all Nazi operations

By MARC HILLEL & CLARISSA HENRY

Translated by Eric Mossbacher

"Man was . . . to be descended . . . from the SS. He was to have one leader, the Führer, one country, the Reich, and one religion, blood. He was to be tall, fair, blue-eyed, athletic."

THE extermination of the Jews was only one side of Hitler's program to Aryanize the world. The other little-known side was the infamous *Lebensborn* plan.

The *Lebensborns* appeared to be maternity homes for unwed mothers. Actually they were "human stud farms" set up by SS chief Heinrich Himmler to fulfill Hitler's dream of creating a superrace through selective breeding. The most appalling part of the *Lebensborn* program was the mass roundup and abduction of non-German children. To increase their breeding stock, the Nazis kidnapped "racially valuable" children from the countries they conquered. (Two hundred thousand were taken from Poland alone.) The 10 percent who passed genetic inspection were placed in *Lebensborn* homes to be "Germanized." The others were disposed of—sterilized, sent to concentration camps or otherwise eliminated.

There is no sensationalism in *Of Pure Blood*. The facts speak their own inestimable horror.

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ORGANIZING THE PRESIDENCY

by Stephen Hess

This is an informative study of how six of the nation's modern Chief Executives ran the White House—

ranging from the "designed chaos" of FDR to the "absolute" presidency of Richard Nixon. Its author, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and former staff member under Eisenhower and Nixon, also details a plan for fundamental reform, advocating less power to the "President's Men" and more power to the Cabinet.

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MAUVE GLOVES & MADMEN, CLUTTER & VINE by Tom Wolfe

The author of *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test* and *Radical Chic & Mau-Mauing the Flak Catchers* is back with more of his marvelous mix of journalism and comedy. This time Wolfe's topic is the 1970s—when everybody's marching to the "Me" beat, "funky chic" (e.g., jeans and work shirts) is high fashion and "pornoviolence" is the daily diet of literate Americans. "A virtuoso performance radiating wit, verve and panache"—*Publishers Weekly*.

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MIDNIGHT EXPRESS

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John Updike returns in this novel to the erotic landscape of his best-selling *Couples*. The scene is exurban Connecticut, where Jerry Conant and Sally Mathias are in love. But each is, unfortunately, married to someone else. Nor are their spouses, Ruth and Richard, unaware of the allurements of adultery. Frank, funny and witty, this is "the best written . . . of Updike's longer fiction. . . . It is, quite simply, his best novel yet"—*Newsweek*.

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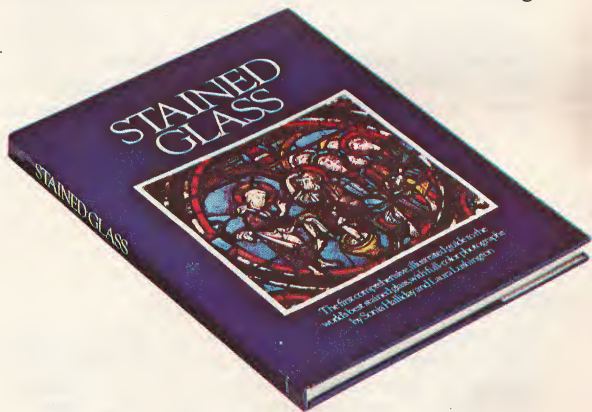
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Lawrence Lee and Francis Stephens

With photographs by Sonia Halliday and Laura Lushington

Filled with page after page of full-color photographs, this magnificent volume traces the history of one of the world's most beautiful art forms from its begin-



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Saul Bellow's "raffish, kaleidoscopic and fantastical" novel is a story about two American writers: one named Von Humboldt Fleisher, "poet, thinker, problem drinker, pill taker, man of genius," and a younger man who was once his protégé, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian named Charlie Citrine. "I urge you to let yourself enjoy this ebullient novel"—Richard Todd, *Atlantic Monthly*. Winner of the 1976 Pulitzer Prize in fiction.

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A Personal Account by Saul Bellow

The 1976 Nobel Prize winner's first nonfiction book—an eloquent, often entertaining reflection on the state of Israel. "Impassioned and thoughtful. . . . Saul Bellow handles ideas with the same juggling ease that he tells stories"—*N.Y. Times Book Review*. "Extraordinary reportage by a major American writer, an intense, moving and dramatic record marked both by wit and deep feeling"—*San Francisco Chronicle*.

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In this now-classic work, first published in 1973, E. F. Schumacher offers smaller-scale yet feasible solutions to problems—from the energy shortage to urban decay—that have been created by the theory that bigger is better. "A book of more heart and hope and downright common sense about the future than all the economic and pseudoscientific forecasts around"—*Daily Mail* (London).

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In what *Newsweek* calls a "remarkable" book, two BBC investigative reporters present startling new evidence about the fate of Czar Nicholas II and his family—and the destiny of the fabled Crown Princess Anastasia. "Sensational . . . a masterful work of great suspense, a masterpiece of detection"—*Cosmopolitan*. "Extremely intriguing"—*The New York Times*. "No one will ever be able to look at the story of Nicholas and Alexandra in the same way again"—*New Statesman*. Illustrated.

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"A Gilda that's all innocence."—*The N*



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"Perfectly cast as simply exudes youth and carefree libidin



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about a young boy's
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City during the sum-
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ulletin came over the
Poland. And suddenly
and his life—would

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of *Victoria R.I.* and
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including an incestuous
Augusta), "filthy and
devotion to "radical"
gend in his own time.
ble"—James Dickey.
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Howard by a man who
almost four decades.
en a better or more
in the last fifty years,
Arthur Marshall, *New*
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ture, psychology and
ows how the figure of
mother and intercessor
ced by cultural devel-
y to the present day.
l enlightening. . . A
e development of the
ity"—Margaret Mead,
rmative"—*The Times*

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over the wild sweep of the Republic"
—*Boston Globe*

DURING his fifty-year career as one of America's literary pundits,
H. L. Mencken found time to write 100,000 letters in which he
commented about practically everything—from the virtues of
saloons to the vices of the New Deal. Here are some 600 of these letters,
including many never before published, which show their witty, iras-
cible author at the peak of his form.

So spake Mencken...

*To Virginia Dashiell (a news-
paper colleague on the Balti-
more Sun); April 18, 1917*

The most beautiful thing in the
world is Beethoven's symphony
in A major, No. 7. The ugliest is
a crayon portrait. Art is always
superior to nature. It would be a
poor artist who could not beat
the Creator, assuming the condi-
tions of the bout to be anything
approaching even.

*To Carl Sandburg;
March 28, [1918?]*

Good stuff, but rather out of our
line. I dare you to do us a soft and
luscious lyric, capable of reduc-
ing a fat woman to snuffles.

*To Fanny Butcher (literary critic for the Chi-
cago Tribune); September 4, 1920*

Ah, that I had less work to do, and more time to
loaf around the world! . . . Knopf keeps bawling
for a revision of *The American Language*, and I
haven't even opened it. The job will be fearful—six
more months of loathsome malpractice among
pedagogues, philologists and other such foul fowl.

To Ezra Pound; December 26, 1932

The United States begins the new year in the
depths of despair. . . The Chautauqua has blown

THE NEW MENCKEN LETTERS



THE BETTMANN ARCHIVE

Edited by Carl Bode

up; Hoover has been kicked out;
Harvard University is short of
money. Altogether, civilization
begins to show some promise.

*To William Saroyan;
January 25, 1936*

I note what you say about your
aspiration to edit a magazine. I
am sending you by this mail a
six-chambered revolver. Load it
and fire every one into your head.
You will thank me after you get
to Hell and learn from other edi-
tors how dreadful their job was
on earth. I wouldn't go back to
magazine editing for all the
money wasted by the Brain Trust.

*To Robert Frost;
January 27, 1944*

You and I are no longer as young
as we used to be, but nevertheless a considerable
amount of life seems to be left in us. I ascribe my
own survival to commendable habits and earnest
prayer. At 64 I am so nearly free of sin that all
[that] remains is what the chemists call a trace. It
shows in the test tube but is not visible to the
naked eye.

**"This is vintage Mencken, full of tart plums
and wrongheaded opinions, but couched in
that trenchant prose he used like a whip."**

—*New York Post*

636 pages • index

[Publisher's list price: \$19.95]

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TWO BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDITS GIVEN

HIGH CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS

The Impeachment and Trial of Andrew Johnson

by Gene Smith

Few personal conflicts in American history have been as bitter and vicious as the struggle between President Andrew Johnson and the congressional radicals who opposed him. In this fast-moving account of the events surrounding Johnson's impeachment and trial, Gene Smith focuses on the rich cast of characters, headed by Charles Sumner, Thaddeus Stevens and the enigmatic president himself. By the author of *When the Cheering Stopped*.

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THE GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER OVER THE SEPTIC TANK

by Erma Bombeck

"Erma Bombeck is marvelously funny, direct as a hypodermic, a virtuoso in the field of suburban living" —*Vogue*. Here, at her hilarious best, the syndicated columnist and author chronicles the disenchantments of suburban life—from buying her dream house which turns out to be a Pee Wee model home set among hundreds of other Pee Wee model homes, through the arrival of Super Mom down the block, to the onset of that dreaded suburban disease, The Car Pool Crouch. "A treat for Mrs. Bombeck's fans"—*Detroit Free Press*.

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A MAN CALLED INTREPID: The Secret War

by William Stephenson

While Britain waged ruthless open war against the Nazis, another, very hush-hush war was being carried on. Here, revealed for the first time, are details of that other war, whose chief of operations was a Canadian, William Stephenson, code name Intrepid, and whose base was a New York City office. Stephenson was Churchill's secret emissary to FDR and was to become one of the models for Ian Fleming's famous agent, M. "Filled with more true incredible tales of international intrigue than any ten spy novels I know of"—Mordecai Richler.

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THE FACE OF BATTLE

by John Keegan

A "wise and sympathetic" book shedding fresh light on the emotions, humors, splendors and miseries of soldiers in battle. Reviewing particularly the experiences of those who fought in three major engagements centuries apart—Agincourt, Waterloo and the Somme—Mr. Keegan, who teaches at Sandhurst, England's Royal Military Academy, depicts the common elements facing all fighting men under attack. "In this book, which is so creative, so original, one learns as much about the nature of man as of battle. It is a brilliant achievement!"—*The New York Times Book Review*.

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AGAINST OUR WILL

Men, Women and Rape by Susan Brownmiller

In this brilliant, far-ranging study, Susan Brownmiller, journalist and feminist, examines the most terrifying and misunderstood of social crimes—the crime of rape. Viewing the subject in its many aspects—historical, legal, racial, psychological—she reaches conclusions that will startle male as well as female readers. "Demands to be read"—Ashley Montagu.

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SLAPSTICK or LONESOME NO MORE!

by Kurt Vonnegut

Another wonderfully wacky tour-de-farce by the best-selling author of *Slaughterhouse Five* and *Breakfast of Champions*. The story of a seven-foot-tall, 100-year-old man who lives in the ruins of the lobby of New York's Empire State Building, this novel, according to Vonnegut, "is the closest I will ever come to writing an autobiography." "A zany, satirically sure novel by a writer who joyously knocks reality off the rails"—Mordecai Richler.

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and Leonard Gross

A simple series of "no sweat" exercises (ten minutes a day three times a week) to help you get into shape and stay that way. Dr. Morehouse, a professor of exercise physiology at UCLA, designed the exercise program for the Skylab astronauts and is considered one of the world's leading authorities on physical fitness. In addition to the exercise program he offers advice on dieting and includes special conditioning exercises for skiers, swimmers, tennis players, etc.

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WINNERS AND LOSERS Battles, Retreats, Gains Ruins from a Long War

"A great book [which] will be read by the *Angeles Times*. For the son, a former Saigon *York Times*, has traveled among veterans, anti-war protesters, widows and parents who have had on them the extraordinary and terrible of war. "A magnificent

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Narcisse Chamberlain

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Winner of the 1976 Pulitzer Award for fiction. "Boston *Sunday Globe* novel is the story of a Vermont, locked in a novel alongside this story is a novel-within-a-novel." "Quite marvelous—G accessible novel to date novel"—*Time*.

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Based in part on interviews with people intimately connected with the royal family, this absorbing study of

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The Exploits of Benjamin Franklin

by David Schoenbrun

A fascinating account of Franklin's years of trial and triumph in Paris. Surrounded by spies, plagued by quarrelsome colleagues, frustrated by the intricacies of European power politics, the wily old diplomat somehow managed to gain arms and allies for the American revolution and to negotiate an honorable peace for the fledgling United States. 420 pages, index, bibliography.

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A comical, inside look at what really goes on in the clubhouse, the dugout, the bullpen and on the diamond, by an ex-catcher, "confirmed .250 hitter" and TV personality. "An intimate look at the sport that even the most rabid fan never gets"—Chicago *Sun-Times*. "An immensely entertaining book. . . . It's loaded with anecdotes, many of them bordering on the hilarious"—Arthur Daley.

\$5.95

THE ACTS OF KING ARTHUR AND

HIS NOBLE KNIGHTS by John Steinbeck

Malory's *Morte Darthur* as retold by John Steinbeck. For years until his death in 1968, the author of *The Grapes of Wrath* worked intermittently on translating the Arthurian legend into the "American language." The seven tales he completed are published here for the first time, together with his correspondence about the project. Steinbeck based his retellings on the 15th-century Winchester manuscript of Malory.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE ROGER CARAS PET BOOK

by Roger A. Caras

Since 1969, more than 1100 programs of the popular radio series "Pets and Wildlife" have been broadcast over CBS radio by the writer, lecturer, naturalist and animal expert Roger Caras. This informative volume presents the information from 200 of these programs—all revised for a reading audience—offering advice and pointed information about caring for all types of household pets, especially dogs and cats.

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BITTERSWEET: Surviving and Growing

from Loneliness by Terri Schultz

At a particularly troubled time in her life, Terri Schultz, a talented young journalist, confronted (and ultimately conquered) her own loneliness. Now she has written a thoughtful and honest book that may help others do the same. In it she speaks about "average middle-class loneliness"—loneliness in childhood and in marriage; loneliness at parties, with friends, during sex; "emotional anesthesia" and living alone.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

DAVID ATLEE PHILLIPS NIGHT WATCH THE

"There are as many twists and turns here as in a spy thriller, only it's the real thing, with glimpses of Allen Dulles, JFK, Che Guevara, double agent Kim Philby, Howard Hunt and others"—*Publishers Weekly*

IN 1950, at the height of the cold war, David Atlee Phillips was recruited by the CIA. During the next two and a half decades, Phillips was an eyewitness to the political upheaval in Latin America. He was involved in the military overthrow of the Arbenz regime in Guatemala in 1954. He was an agent in Cuba when Castro marched into Havana. He headed the Dominican Republic Station after U.S. troops were sent into Santo Domingo. And he was chief of the Western Hemisphere Division when the Allende government was toppled in Chile.

After twenty-five years of silence, Phillips now talks about the covert roles he and the CIA played in major Latin American espionage operations. In the wake of recent charges made by CIA critics, he builds a strong case for his contention that "good intelligence is indispensable to the U.S. [even] in an era of détente."

"The CIA finally has its say, and what a voice! Phillips is as skilled a writer as he was a spook."

—Joseph C. Goulden
author of *The Best Years*

[Publisher's list price: \$9.95]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$8.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

EYE ON BOOKS (Continued from page 6)

the door. There are so many places I'll never go back to. I change, the places change. I was afraid to go back to Nova Scotia, but I went not long ago, and it hadn't changed."

LOUIS L'AMOUR thinks he has found the secret of successful writing. "You begin the story in the middle or close to the end," he says, "and you always start with something that grabs the reader by the throat." He may be on to something. L'Amour has written more than fifty novels, and with the recent publication of *To the Far Blue Mountains*, in hardcover, and *Westward the Tide*, in paperback, his publishers claim that nearly 55 million copies of his books are in print.

He has been called America's most popular Western writer, but L'Amour prefers to think of himself as a frontier writer. "I've written about the frontier wherever it's been: Maine, Tennessee, western Pennsylvania, the Gaspé Peninsula. I've even been tempted to write about outer space, but I won't. You probably won't be able to see the shape of it for two or more years, but what I've been doing is telling the story of America through three immigrant families—French Canadian, Irish and Welsh—who settled on different frontiers at different times and later intermarried. The whole series will take forty books. Twelve have been written. So far I've kept all the facts in my head, but I'm going to have to get all those genealogies written down soon or I'll be in a terrible mess."

L'Amour, who at six feet one inch tall and weighing in at 220 pounds looks like a frontiersman out of his own books, lives with his wife and children in a Spanish-style house in Los Angeles and works surrounded by his 7000-volume Western library. "I don't read Western fiction," he says, "just first-person accounts, family histories, that sort of thing. I really go further with authenticity than I have to, but I like it that way, and so do my readers. If I mention a town, it existed. If I give the name of an innkeeper, it is always a real one and there's nothing on his menu that the real one didn't serve. My early books didn't have that much research behind them, but I began to get a lot of mail and I took the mail seriously. Most of the people wanted to know why things happened or how things worked. For example, someone wanted to know how much it cost to go West. Well, I found out and was surprised. It was expensive. It came to about \$35,000 once you paid for the wagon and the oxen and the guns and the food for eight months."

L'Amour was born about sixty years ago—he doesn't like to mention his age—in North Dakota.

His great-grandfather, he says, was scalped by the Indians. His grandfather was an Indian fighter, and Louis quit school in the tenth grade to bum around the West and pick up odd jobs where he could find them. In the early 1950s, he turned to writing.

"My grandfather used to live with us," L'Amour recalled, "and old Indians that he had once fought would come around and they would retell their old battles the way we would refight old football games. I don't remember what they actually talked about, but I remember being surprised by how excited the Indians would get. I suspect the whole legend of Indians being taciturn came from tourists who went around asking Indians silly questions."

L'Amour believes another reason his books are popular is that they are, he says, clean. "I tell a story and an authentic one, but I don't have to tell how people go to the bathroom. I'm telling the story of what happened over half a continent, and I think that's more important than whether or not Joe Blow got some girl into bed. Maybe I'm not really an author at all, but a storyteller, the guy who sits at the end of a bar or next to a campfire. When he talks, you don't want any long-winded tales, you just want him to get to the point."

THE "they" in the title of Ivan Van Sertima's book, *They Came Before Columbus*, are Africans, perhaps from Mali. Van Sertima is a Guyana-born anthropologist and linguist who now teaches at Rutgers University. By examining clues he found in Mali legends, African and Indian linguistic roots, Olmec statuary, the journals of early explorers (including Columbus), and the pattern of cotton and tobacco growth in Africa and South America, he makes a strong case for his theory that there was an African presence in the New World before 1492. He stresses the word *presence*, for he feels that, unlike others who may have come before Columbus, such as the Vikings, Africans remained here and became part of the local culture.

The theory that there were Africans in pre-Columbian America is not altogether new, Van Sertima admits, but what is new is his contention that they came as free men and not slaves. "Just look at Mexican sculpture," he said recently. "Why were Negro heads worshiped by the Mayas and Aztecs as deities if they were slaves? Would Olmecs have erected such huge monuments to slaves? I think it is very unlikely. Look at Mali literature. There are descriptions of a king leading a great fleet to the West and never returning."

Van Sertima says his interest in the mixture of African and Indian heritages grew out of his own childhood in Guyana. "I grew up in a forest town that contained a mixture of West Indian and African culture, all of us seemed to be a mixture of both, and when my family moved to Georgetown,

(Continued on page 22)

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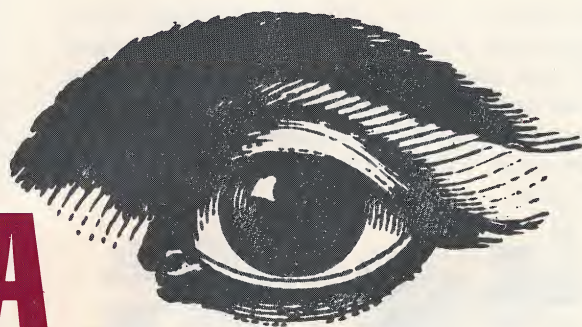
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BIC Alternate

The chilling story of a grief-crazed father who plots a dreadful revenge against his son's killers . . .



WITH A VENGEANCE

By Gerald DiPego

FOR twenty years Stephen Nye grieves silently for his son Randal, accidentally burned to death at the age of 19 during a fraternity hazing. Nye lives alone, haunted by memories, nurturing his bitterness and rage, and keeping careful files on the five men who as youths took part in the tragic prank. Then one day he is ready. He quits his job as an English teacher and sets out to avenge Randal's death in the only way that seems fitting to him: by killing the teenage children of the men responsible for his own child's death, so that each of the five will suffer as he has suffered.

As Nye begins his journey of vengeance, he undergoes a chilling metamorphosis, changing from

a timid, stoop-shouldered, inconspicuous man to a strong, confident, crafty killer. While his intended victims wait in terror, baffled police departments across the country work feverishly to catch Nye before he can extract his grim payment.

[Publisher's list price: \$8.95] **PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$7.95**

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

AN IRREVERENT AND THOROUGHLY INCOMPLETE SOCIAL HISTORY OF ALMOST EVERYTHING

by Frank Muir

As entertaining as it is informative, this unorthodox social history contains more than 1000 remarks from the acid-dipped pens of such as Pope, Twain, Shaw, Voltaire, Swift and Mencken on the "deplorable" state of music, education, literature, theater, food and drink down through the ages. 372 pages. "[Will] elevate the reader quite often to unhealthful altitudes of high amusement"—*Chicago Tribune*.

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BLIND AMBITION: The White House Years

by John Dean

The long-awaited inside account by John Dean—former White House counsel to Richard Nixon and star witness at the Ervin Committee hearings—of the Watergate affair. "Before you know it, you are turning

the pages of Mr. Dean's book as if you were reading about Watergate for the very first time. And by the time you have finished, you are convinced that no previous book about the scandal . . . has begun to tell the inside story as this one does"—Christopher Lehmann-Haupt, *The New York Times*.

(Pub price: \$11.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

THE BOOK OF HOPE

How Women Can Overcome Depression

by Helen A. De Rosis, M.D., and Victoria Y. Pellegrino

A practical, self-help book for the 8 million men and women who suffer each year from chronic, low-grade depression. Includes a detailed examination of the causes and symptoms of this often-undiagnosed illness (which, incidentally, strikes more than twice as many women as men), and practical prescriptions for overcoming it.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

the capital, I found the Indian presence almost nonexistent. Few people had knowledge or respect for their own traditions. Too many West Indians write about having a mongrel culture and go on too long about how all the great cultures were pure and monolithic. This is wrong. The great cultures were all mixed.



"Black Gods" from Pre-Columbian Mexico

"One Guyana novelist and poet, Wilson Harris, who I hope will one day surprise everyone and become the first West Indian to win the Nobel Prize, does combine Indian and African themes in his work. He has been a great inspiration to me. His idea is that the New World means something only if it combines old and new cultures. I am not saying that by coming here the African brought culture to the Indian and that he is superior to the Indian. That's nothing but a new version of the European conquest of America.

"When I went to study Swahili at the University of London, nothing upset me more than my professors telling me that the Arab elements in Africa were superior to the black. And it was said as gospel, without hesitation. But when I went to Tanzania to assemble material for a dictionary of Swahili legal terms, I found that the African presence had greatly modified the Moslem presence. The same thing happened when Africans reached Central and South America. There was a marriage that complemented both cultures. This is something those professors in London could not understand, just as other professors have not been able to understand Africans getting to the New World without being in chains."

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TO THE FAR BLUE MOUNTAINS

Louis L'Amour, \$7.95

THEY CAME BEFORE COLUMBUS

Ivan Van Sertima, \$15.00

THE LAST CATTLE DRIVE by Robert Day

A funny, robust story of a modern-day cattle drive through downtown Kansas City, with a colorful cast of two-legged and four-legged characters. Along the way, herd and herders must contend with such problems as an attack by a mobile home, a near-disastrous run-in with a movie company and a shoot-out with a TV-news helicopter. "Fetching, with some tall, raunchy saddletalk and a style as clear as sweet buttered corn"—*Kirkus Reviews*.

\$7.95

CENTENNIAL by James A. Michener

Following in the tradition of *Hawaii* and *The Source*, this novel is a "finely documented, endlessly fascinating" chronicle of the great American West. Set in Centennial, Colorado, it traces the history of the Rocky Mountain region and this once-flourishing railroad town from its earliest times to the present. "Another masterly performance by Mr. Michener"—John K. Hutchens.

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THE TOLKIEN COMPANION

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The perfect traveling companion for voyagers to the perilous and enchanted realms of Middle-earth. Contains almost every known fact, name, "foreign" word, date and etymological allusion given in J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Adventures of Tom Bombadil* and *The Road Goes Ever On*—all arranged alphabetically for easy reference and for hours of fascinating browsing. Maps, charts, genealogies. Cross-referenced.

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FOR YOURSELF

The Fulfillment of Female Sexuality

by Lonnie Garfield Barbach

A therapy program to help women realize full sexual responsiveness is detailed in this outspoken book on female sexuality. The author, a West Coast psychologist and sex therapist, offers a series of clinically tested exercises said to have enabled 93 percent of the women who followed them to achieve orgasm consistently. Also discusses female physiology and female sexuality, past and present.

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THE THIRTEENTH TRIBE: The Khazar Empire and Its Heritage by Arthur Koestler

Are the majority of today's Western Jews Semites? Or are they descendants of a "thirteenth tribe"? According to Arthur Koestler, author of *Darkness at Noon*, millions of Jews are the offspring of an ancient Turkish tribe, the Khazars, who were converts to Judaism and who settled mainly in Russia and Poland around the thirteenth century. "Excellent . . . as readable as it is thought-provoking"—*The New York Times Book Review*.

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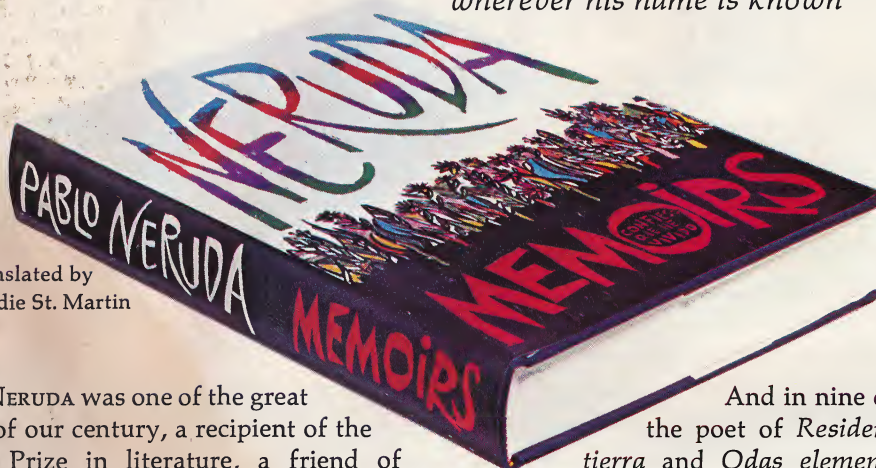
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BMC Alternate

One of the best and most important memoirs of 1977
"Neruda sets down his memories as vividly as
yesterday's loves in a book that will be treasured
wherever his name is known"*



Translated by
Hardie St. Martin

PABLO NERUDA was one of the great poets of our century, a recipient of the Nobel Prize in literature, a friend of García Lorca, Eluard, Vallejo and Picasso. He was also a diplomat, Communist, fugitive, an intellectual man of action.

And so Neruda's memoirs, completed just days before his death, are both fine and full-blooded, alive with poetry and politics, stories of literary friends and national leaders. They are a lyrical remembrance of youth; a full record of political exile and wanderings in the Communist world; a final passionate outcry.

Neruda's memoirs end in September, 1973, as time runs out. The junta has seized Chile. Allende, his friend, has been dead three days.

And in nine days more the poet of *Residencia en la tierra* and *Odas elementales* will also die and his house will be vandalized.

"An unforgettable book, teeming with anecdotes, by turns hilarious and poignant, rich with this great poet's lust for life."

—Publishers Weekly*

"Strong and evocative, intensely clear and exact. . . . [The memoirs] record a political odyssey of deep feeling and principle, and a final terrible ending."

—Horizon

"Wonderfully sympathetic and volatile, likely to be a classic of its kind."

—Kirkus Reviews

[Publisher's list price: \$11.95]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$9.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

THE LESSONS OF HISTORY

by Will and Ariel Durant

When Dr. and Mrs. Durant finished their Pulitzer Prize-winning *Rousseau and Revolution*, tenth and final volume of *The Story of Civilization*, they promised to follow it with "a summarizing essay." THE LESSONS OF HISTORY is that essay, a brief but brilliant analysis of "what history has to say about the nature, conduct and prospects of man."

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pick professional help, start a portfolio, acquire a nest egg. Virtually every form of investment is considered: savings accounts, insurance, real estate, stocks, bonds, commodities and "collectibles" such as silver and antiques.

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THE PETER PLAN: A Proposal for Survival

by Laurence J. Peter

The author of *The Peter Principle* projects his premise—"Man cannot live by incompetence alone"—to society as a whole. Writing in his customarily entertaining style, Dr. Peter challenges the effectiveness of the crisis-management policies of the 1970s and imagines what the world could be like in 1990 if we applied our present knowledge in imaginative new ways. "Brilliant, optimistic"—Richard Armour.

(Pub price: \$6.95) Price to Members: **\$5.95**

THE JOY OF MONEY

The Guide to Women's Financial Freedom

by Paula Nelson

What every woman needs to know—and usually doesn't—about money. The author covers such topics as how to get out of debt, begin your own business,

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THE POOH CRAFT BOOK

Inspired by Winnie-the-Pooh and The House at Pooh Corner

By A. A. Milne Illustrations by E. H. Shepard
Craft ideas and drawings by Carol S. Friedrichsen

THIS delightful little volume shows young sewers how to make Winnie-the-Pooh, Eeyore, Tigger and other animals of the 100 Aker Wood. Although primarily written for youngsters, parents and grandparents can use this book to make toys and decorations for children too young or inexperienced to make the animals themselves. Also included are ideas for three other Pooh projects. Fully illustrated with easy-to-follow instructions for sewing, a list of necessary materials and traceable stencils.

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Compiled and with an introduction by
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THE RUSSIANS by Hedrick Smith

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**MANAGEMENT: Tasks, Responsibilities,
Practices** by Peter F. Drucker

One of the world's leading management experts explains the techniques of effective management and then shows how these practices can be utilized to maximum advantage by managers at all levels and in every type of business. "It is impossible to imagine a manager with any sense of his own professional worth who should not own and frequently consult . . . this momentous book"—*Business Week*.

(Pub price: \$17.50) Price to Members: \$10.75

DAVID McCULLOUGH's new book, *The River*, is a huge, sprawling sub- book centered on an- disordered the lives- (the Johnstown, Pa. flood); his second work construction which b- cal-social consequen- ing of the Brooklyn- the forty-four-year in- fort to create the Par- "People ask me, 'I- are always writing ab- construction jobs?' " I- I think my work doe- tinuity. The books an- am writing about self- who don't give up, pe- with large things. Ar- about the roles pe- courage play for tho- volved. There's a q- Exupéry's *Wind, Sand, and Stars* helps sum it up for me- other ways than war- warmth of a race, sho- der, toward an identic-

Despite their titles, books don't fit snu- gories. "The Canal—i- ject," he says, "it's 19th-century medicin- tional politics, financ- Think of the repercus- rents it released. And wonderful people!"

McCullough's scr- by-item research pay- rewards when he is al- a figure and provide- characterization that- offered before. His- Ferdinand de Lesse- cluded conversations- son in Paris, enable- "a different picture" Frenchman. In the a- Ecole Polytechnique- discovered material- illegitimate birth of P- Varilla, an unknown f- explain some of the m- A high point of Mc- vestigation—which hi- sudden grasp of an e-



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THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF LIFE

by *Burton L. White*

As Director of Harvard's Pre-School Project, Dr. White has spent about twenty years studying the development of the infant and toddler, and here reveals his techniques for rearing healthy, intelligent children during the critical first three years. This comprehensive guide outlines the child's emotional, physical and intellectual development, and, in addition, gives advice on such issues as the spacing of children, day-care centers and the best toys to buy. Illustrations by Kitty Riley Clark.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE COMPLETE SHERLOCK HOLMES

(2 Vols.) by *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*

These two volumes contain every story Sir Arthur Conan Doyle ever wrote about the most famous detective in fiction—all four novels and all fifty-six adventures. Youngsters who have never read these exciting books can spend many entertaining evenings with them, while oldsters will find them perfect bedside volumes to reread and re-enjoy. 1100 pages.

(Pub price: \$14.95) Price to Members: \$12.95

536 PUZZLES & CURIOUS PROBLEMS

by *Henry Ernest Dudeney*

A gold mine of brain teasers by the English journalist and self-taught mathematician known as "the puzzle king." Contains money puzzles, age puzzles, clock puzzles, geometry puzzles, paper-folding puzzles, game puzzles, domino puzzles, match puzzles, etc., etc.—with, at the back of the book, explanations and answers. 428 pages; 421 diagrams and drawings.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO THE CLASS OF '65?

by *Michael Medved and David Wallechinsky*

In 1965 *Time* magazine focused on the senior class of a suburban Los Angeles high school for its cover story on "Today's Teenagers." Ten years later, thirty members of that class describe their lives then and now and discuss what it was like to come of age during the '60s and '70s. Photographs. "Illuminating . . . compelling reading"—Ashley Montagu.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE THIRD

REICH by *William L. Shirer*

Over the years, William Shirer's landmark study of Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany has proved to be the Club's most popular Selection. This brilliant 1200-page account traces the history of the Third Reich from Hitler's early days in Vienna through his years as Führer to his death in Berlin in 1945. "Reads like a murder mystery (which, in a sense, it indeed is)"—John Gunther. By the author of *20th Century Journey*. two Book-Dividend Credits given.

(Pub price: \$17.50) Price to Members: \$13.95

A DREAM JOURNEY by *James Hanley*

James Hanley, one of Britain's most widely acclaimed novelists, explores the intimate relationship between a man and a woman—between Clem Stevens, a second-rate but still struggling artist, and Lena, who has lived with him and believed in him for some twenty years. "There is no English novelist working today to compare to Hanley"—*N.Y. Times*. "Reaffirms his unquestioned gift for the excavation of rich, resonant character"—*Newsweek*.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN

by *Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward*

The basis for the movie of the same name, *ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN* is the compelling, behind-the-scenes account of the Watergate scandal by the two young *Washington Post* reporters who broke the story. "A muckraking classic"—John Barkham. "Remarkable"—*N.Y. Times Book Review*. "A devastating political detective story"—*San Francisco Chronicle*. "An admirable book in every way"—*Atlantic Monthly*.

(Pub price: \$10.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

THE FINAL DAYS

by *Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein*

A "remarkable work. . . . A compelling tale: the record of the final months and weeks and days of President Nixon"—Gilbert Highet. The two reporters for *The Washington Post* who coauthored *All the President's Men* disclose the full story behind the events that led to the resignation of America's thirty-seventh president. Based on hundreds of interviews, the book offers candid glimpses of Nixon, Kissinger, Haig and others.

(Pub price: \$11.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

ORDINARY PEOPLE by *Judith Guest*

"Read this fine first novel for its plotting, its sure sense of character and its wit, and rejoice"—*The Washington Post Book World*. *ORDINARY PEOPLE* tells the touching story of a 17-year-old boy who has tried to kill himself, and of how his well-meaning family complicates his road to recovery. "This book is realistic, constructive, affirmative. There is pain in it, and sometimes laughter"—*The Wall Street Journal*.

\$7.95

THE STORY OF PHILOSOPHY

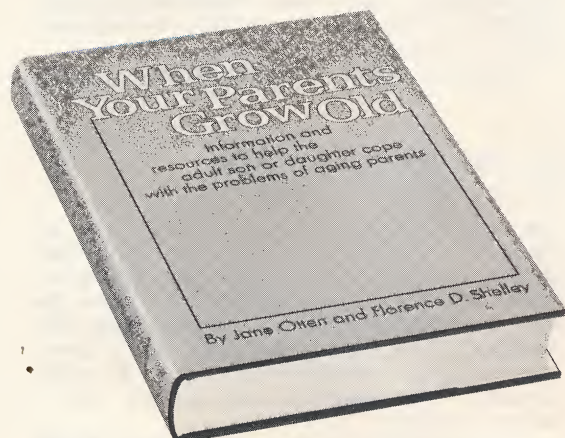
by *Will Durant*

Long a best seller, this is probably the most satisfying book on philosophy available for the layman. It contains not only the essence of the wisdom of the great philosophers but a great deal of information about the philosophers themselves. Among those discussed are Plato, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Bergson, Bertrand Russell, Santayana, William James, John Dewey.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

The Book-of-the-Month Club Also Recommends

Reported upon here are newly published books that were enjoyed or considered important by our editorial staff. The Club will be happy to obtain for members, upon request, any books reviewed on this page.



"THIS is a book to help you when you find yourself faced with the problems of your parents' old age," write Jane Otten and Florence D. Shelley in *When Your Parents Grow Old* (\$9.95). The book does just that. The authors don't suggest that the task is easy: you are torn by love, guilt, frustration and sadness. It may mean financial sacrifices. But there are places in the community to turn to for help, and there are attitudes which will make coping with the situation more bearable. The problem is yours, the authors say, but the fact that it confronts you is not your fault. *When Your Parents Grow Old* is filled with practical suggestions and includes a bibliography. A supportive, sensible, informative book.—Elizabeth Easton

IN *Take Charge: A Personal Guide to Behavior Modification* (\$7.95), William H. Redd and William Sleator offer a lucid explanation of the basic principles of this young, developing, still controversial alternative to psychotherapy. All people, the authors remind us, including those with particular psychological problems, behave as they do for an obvious reason—they repeat actions they find satisfying or enjoyable; they avoid those which cause them fear, pain or embarrassment. Behavior modification sets out to alleviate psychological problems by encouraging ("reinforcing") certain behavior patterns and discouraging others, rather than by delving into childhood traumas or resorting to other types of analysis. Dr. Redd, Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his collaborator discuss situations in which behavior therapy has proved helpful—efforts to correct obesity, for example, or sexual

difficulties, teacher-pupil relationships, certain psychoses and neuroses. They warn, however, that it can be abused and has been held to be a violation of human rights when attempted in conjunction with the administration of drugs on institutionalized mental patients and unruly prison inmates. *Take Charge* is a good, terse, sensible introduction to its subject.—Jill Sansone

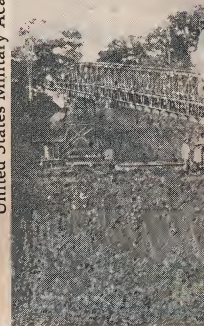
JANWILLEM VAN DE WETERING started out writing books about Zen Buddhism. Now he is writing detective novels with Zen overtones. His latest, *Death of a Hawker* (\$6.95), is his best. The Hawker is a young Amsterdam counter-culture street merchant who has been brutally murdered, his face smashed in by some blunt instrument. A three-man Amsterdam police team seeks the killer. The plot itself is conventional, but the atmosphere of Amsterdam—its canals and cafés and ancient, narrow houses—is marvelously evoked. And the leading characters are interesting and unconventional. One of the policemen plays the flute and can't stand the sight of blood. He becomes romantically involved with the murdered man's sister, a delightful young woman. There is a lovable transvestite, an ex-cop turned retired elderly lady, and even a jealous, truculent cat. The policemen move about the city in the midst of a savage riot provoked by young radicals. There is the smell of civilization under siege, and it is the police who maintain stability. A charming novel of its kind.—Theodore Harmon

AFAMOUS columnist (a Jack Anderson type) is found dead on a Washington street, and reporter Tony Jordan—cynical but moral in the best journalistic tradition—soon suspects that there is more to this murder than the simple armed robbery which meets the eye. Jordan sets out, in Lawrence Meyer's capital mystery novel, *A Capitol Crime* (\$7.95), to investigate and finds, as Woodward and Bernstein found (this novel owes more than a little to *All the President's Men*), that he has stumbled on a plot considerably more devious than he had imagined, a plot which points directly toward the presidency itself. Mr. Meyer is convincingly familiar with today's Washington scene. Even those readers who spot the real villain of the piece early on will enjoy the skillful way its crackling plot hangs together, its vivid gallery of supporting characters, and its wry, breezy style.—Janet Gardner

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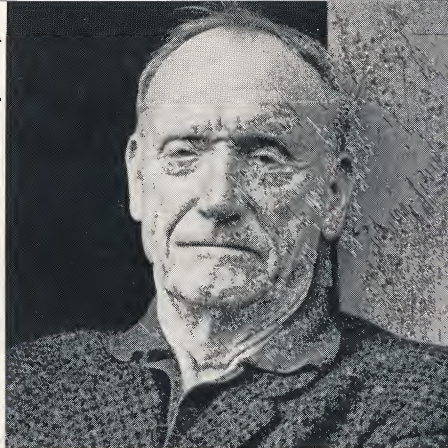
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"American poetry is haunted by a series of giant forms: Emerson, Whitman, Dickinson, Frost, Stevens, Pound, Williams, Eliot, Crane and others. The great event in this year's poetry is that Robert Penn Warren indisputably clears a space for himself in that strong series."

—Harold Bloom, *New Republic*



ROBERT PENN WARREN SELECTED POEMS 1923 1975

At 72 Robert Penn Warren has received virtually every major American literary award. Poet, critic, best-selling novelist, playwright and editor, Warren has won the Bollingen Prize for Poetry, the National Medal for Literature, the National Book Award and two Pulitzer Prizes—one in fiction for *All the King's Men* and one in poetry for *Promises*.

This extraordinary new collection brings together Warren's best poems. Nearly all the

works from his four previous volumes (*Selected Poems: 1923-1966*, *Incarnations*, *Audubon* and *Or Else*) are included, as well as ten new poems never before published in a book.

"[His] is a poetry haunted by the lusts and loves of the flesh, filled with dramatic incident, vivid landscapes and philosophical reflection."

—Hilton Kramer

The New York Times Book Review

[Publisher's list price: \$15] PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$12.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

HARVARD BUSINESS REVIEW— ON MANAGEMENT

by the Editors of the Harvard Business Review

Thirty-nine of the best articles on business management published by *HBR* over the past quarter of a century. Among the contributors are Peter Drucker, who writes about the obsolescence of the General Motors organization; Theodore Levitt, who explains why "there is no such thing as a growth industry"; Edward W. Jones, Jr., who describes what it's like to be a black manager; and Paul R. Lawrence, who discusses worker resistance to "all forms of change."

(Pub price: \$17.95) Price to Members: **\$12.95**

HOW TO *by Peter Passell*

A witty and frivolous guide to doing what seems well-nigh impossible . . . by the author of *The Best*. Tells how to get an audience with the Pope, get even, get away from it all, pick the sex of your child, predict earthquakes, keep a pipe lit, avoid shark bite, read your FBI file, buy a racehorse, increase your height, choose a Federal prison, and much, much more.

(Pub price: \$6.95) Price to Members: **\$5.95**

THE LANGUAGE OF FEELINGS

The Time-and-Money Shorthand

of Psychotherapy by David Viscott, M.D.

The author of *The Making of a Psychiatrist*, a Club Selection in 1973, offers practical advice on how to understand and manage such potentially damaging emotions as hurt, anxiety, anger, guilt and depression. Above all, Dr. Viscott emphasizes that it is vitally important to "listen" to one's feelings. For, he maintains, "without an awareness of what our feelings mean, there is no *real* awareness of life."

\$6.95

WAKE UP, WAKE UP, TO DO THE WORK OF THE CREATOR

by William B. Helmreich

An unforgettable memoir of a year spent in one of America's most Orthodox yeshivas, plus fond recollections of the author's Orthodox Jewish boyhood, in which "religion was life itself." "Prompts understanding and admiration. . . . Readily enables outsiders to appreciate the Jewish genius for making the living of life and the worship of God one thing"—*Kirkus Reviews*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: **\$7.95**

Practical and Useful Books

THE CLASSIC ITALIAN COOK BOOK

by Marcella Hazan

"The most comprehensive Italian cookbook of its kind in English"—*Newsday*. Includes 250 recipes for such delectable Northern Italian dishes as Cold Salmon Foam; Braised Veal Shanks, Milan Style; and Yellow and Green Noodles with Cream, Ham and Mushroom Sauce. "Indispensable for anyone who cares about Italian cooking"—Craig Claiborne. Winner of the 1973 R. T. French Tastemaker Award for "Best Foreign Cookbook."

(Pub price: \$12.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

HOW TO CLEAN EVERYTHING

by Alma Chesnut Moore

Latest edition (1969) of the popular "housekeeper's bible." This practical 220-page manual gives clear, expert, step-by-step directions on how to clean just about every type of material and surface—from linen to silver, from floors to furs, from drapes to dresses. Alphabetically arranged. Illustrated.

\$6.95

THE MEDICALLY BASED NO-NONSENSE BEAUTY BOOK

by Deborah Chase

A sensible program of beauty care for the hair, skin and eyes, by a biologist and medical researcher who has consulted with dermatologists rather than with cosmetics manufacturers. Offers sound advice on everything from the efficacy of herbal rinses and eye creams to the care of "smoker's skin" and the effects of cosmetic surgery. Names brand names, outlines "recipes" for low-cost homemade cosmetic preparations.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$7.95

AMERICA'S HANDYMAN BOOK

by the Staff of The Family Handyman

Latest revised edition (1970). A basic guide to home maintenance and repair. Covers both the exterior and the interior of the house; electrical, plumbing and heating systems; outdoor maintenance (driveways, sidewalks, fences, etc.). Easy-to-follow instructions, over 2100 photographs and diagrams, 529 pages.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$10.95

BARTLETT'S FAMILIAR QUOTATIONS

Fourteenth and latest edition (1968). Long an indispensable aid to the cultivated reader, this noted reference work contains the world's wit and wisdom in the form of quotations, apothegms, proverbs, etc. 117,000 index entries. 1776 pages.

(Pub price: \$15.00) Price to Members: \$12.50

RX FOR AILING HOUSE PLANTS

by Charles M. Evans with Roberta Lee Pliner

This comprehensive guide to growing a healthier, more luxuriant indoor garden tells how to diagnose (and treat) everything from overwatering, underfertilizing and leaf-spot disease to mildew, mites and mealybugs. Includes a "symptoms/causes" chart that helps to pinpoint indoor plant problems and prescribes cures. Illustrated.

(Pub price: \$7.95) Price to Members: \$6.95

The New York Times

BREAD AND SOUP COOKBOOK

by Yvonne Young Tarr

More than 500 easy-to-follow recipes for flavorful soups and tasty breads, with dozens of tempting variations. Selected from virtually every part of the world, the recipes run the gamut from Portuguese Caldo Verde and Finnish Easter Crown Bread to Manhattan Clam Chowder and Kentucky Pone Bread. Also included is a special section on diet soups and a superb collection of recipes from some of the finest restaurants in New York.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

JAMES BEARD'S AMERICAN COOKERY

This marvelous guide to America's rich and fascinating food heritage by a renowned gourmet cook contains 1500 recipes (and hundreds of delicious variations) that will please every palate, fit every budget, suit every occasion. Among them are recipes for dishes as basic as Fried Eggs or Pot Roast; as economical as Chicken Hash or Mashed Potato Cakes; and as sumptuous as *Boeuf en daube glacé* or *Crème brûlée*. "A superb compendium—a book to be read and savored as well as to be used"—*Chicago Daily News*. 877 pages, 144 illustrations.

(Pub price: \$14.95) Price to Members: \$11.95

THE WALL BOOK: The interior walls of your home and how to build them, move them and tear them down; how to decorate them with paint, paper, panels, mirrors, tiles, carpets and hundreds of other things by Stanley Schuler

The ultimate how-to book on interior walls, by the author of *How to Fix Almost Everything*. Whatever you can put on a wall or do to a wall is clearly and carefully explained—from hanging a picture to building an acoustical wall—in this do-it-yourself guide, illustrated with diagrams.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

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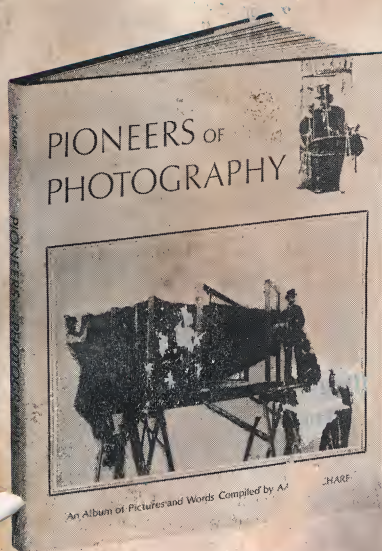


L. J. M. Daguerre: *Boulevard du Temple*, c. 1839.

**"How charming it would be
if it were possible to cause these
natural images to imprint themselves
durably, and remain fixed upon the paper!"**

—William Henry Fox Talbot

PIONEERS OF PHOTOGRAPHY

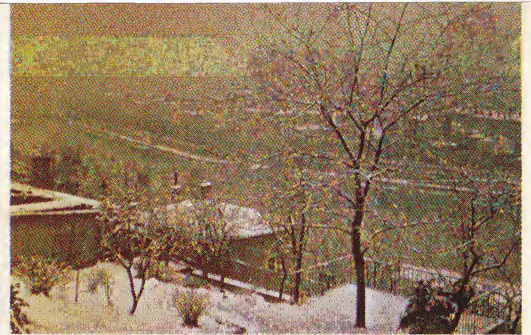


Written and
Compiled by
**AARON
SCHARF**

More than 175 photographs, including 10 plates in full color • 189 pages • illustration notes • bibliography

[Publisher's list price: \$18.50] **PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$15.95**

TWO BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDITS GIVEN



Louis Lumière: *Lyons in the Snow*, c. 1908.



William Henry Fox Talbot: *Bohemian Party*, c. 1844.

AFTER years of false starts and futile experiments, William Henry Fox Talbot announced to the world on January 31, 1839, his discovery of photography. By the turn of the century, Talbot's primitive "photogenic drawings" had been transformed by the cameras of Alfred Stieglitz and Eduard Steichen into art.

Pioneers of Photography is the story of those early years and of the people whose trials and triumphs led to the development of modern photography. Interwoven with Aaron Scharf's commentary are revealing extracts from the diaries and letters of Joseph Nicéphore Niépce, Louis Daguerre, Julia Margaret Cameron, Samuel Bourne, Eadweard Muybridge and others. But more fascinating even than these personal tales are the more than 175 rare photographs reproduced—many for the first time—in this handsome volume. Ranging from Hippolyte Bayard's masterful study of Montmartre's Moulin de la Galette taken in 1848 to Nadar's haunting portrait of Sarah Bernhardt shot in the mid-1860s to Louis Lumière's remarkable color autochromes done between 1905 and 1910, these pictures show what geniuses the "pioneers of photography" were.

ce: \$14.95

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